

# IRISH COLONEL IN COMMAND OF BRITAIN'S REGIMENT OF JEWS

(Correspondence Associated Press.) LONDON, Dec. 4.—The new Jewish battalion of the British army is now encamped for its final training period on a hillside in the west of England. Early in the new year it will leave for the Palestine front.

The battalion is under the command of Col. J. H. Patterson, an Irishman and a great lion hunter in East Africa in the days before the war. His experience in command of Jewish troops dates back to the Gallipoli campaign, where he was in charge of the famous Zion Mule Corps, formed in Egypt of Jewish refugees from Palestine. After the close of the Dardanelles campaign, the Zion corps was disbanded, but some of its members managed to make their way to England and form the nucleus of the new Jewish battalion.

As at present constituted, about 50 per cent of the Jewish battalion are British-born or naturalized. The remainder includes the members of the old Zion Mule Corps, a large

number of Russian Jews, and a curious mélange from several allied and neutral countries. The level of physical fitness, according to the medical officers, is very high, particularly in such matters as teeth and eyesight.

The battalion is practically teetotal, and a wet canteen which was opened in camp a few weeks ago was closed in a fortnight for lack of business. Colonel Patterson himself is an ardent temperance advocate. "Crime in the army," he said the other day, "is due to drink and nothing else. This is shown by the fact that our guardroom has been empty practically from the start, and you would have to travel around many training camps to see the like. The disused cells have been turned into bedrooms for the guards."

A great variety of trades and professions are represented in the battalion. There are more tailors than any other single trade, and this fact is reflected in the excellent fit and smart cut of the battalion's uniforms.

There are several artists and sculptors, the latter including a leading British sculptor, Jacob Epstein, whose work has been a center of interest in England for the past three years. A prominent concert violinist, Anton Tchaikovsky, is in the same company with Epstein, which also numbers a young Russian who claims to be a second cousin of Kerenky.

Regimental orders for the new battalion are issued simultaneously in English and Yiddish, and Yiddish is used as much as English in instructions. Some of the soldiers hardly know the English words of command, but all the non-commissioned officers and most of the commissioned officers speak Yiddish fluently. The languages represented in the ranks are more than a score in number. One corporal speaks nine languages.

The food served is strictly kosher. Saturday is the day off instead of Sunday, and all the fast-days are observed with as much ceremony as the military atmosphere will permit.

# LOS ANGELES KNITTERS ACHIEVE GOOD RECORD IN WORKING FOR WAR

(By Associated Press.)

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 28.—Over 100,000 knitted articles and hospital garments for soldiers and sailors, more than 125,000 dressings, a 500-bed navy base hospital and a 500-bed army base hospital, both fully equipped, were a part of the Los Angeles chapter's contributions to the war activities of the American Red Cross up to the first of this month. In addition, through its department of civilian relief, it has extended aid in various forms to dependent members of families of soldiers and sailors.

To forward this work the chapter, during the nine months ending October 31, raised a fund of more than \$270,000, a substantial part of which it has on hand to meet emergency demands. This does not include Los Angeles' contribution to the \$100,000,000 Red Cross fund.

The membership of the chapter rose from 566 in February, last, to 38,139 at the beginning of the Christmas membership drive.

Knitted articles, made by members

and members of affiliated bodies fostered by the chapter and already forwarded to the men in the trenches, at training camps and on American war vessels, included 11,390 pairs of socks, 4,483 pairs of whistles, 3,363 scarfs, 5,663 sweaters and a large number of caps and helmets.

The chapter now occupies a large building in the business district in which are housed its executive offices, salvage department and a branch of the Red Cross "shop," embodying ideas originated here; speakers' bureau, supply depot and a large work room equipped with a score of sewing machines which are kept busy by volunteer workers turning out necessities and comforts for the nation's fighting forces. At a branch in a residence district classes are given daily instructions in the making of surgical dressings.

"The membership of the Los Angeles chapter is not large, considering the population," said Gurney Newlin, chairman, "but the work it has accomplished, we feel, compares favorably with that of chapters in communities of similar size."

## F. K. LANE TO SPEAK.

(By Associated Press.)

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 29.—Announcement is made of the acceptance of Franklin K. Lane of an invitation to speak at the Nebraska war conference, to be held here on January 18-19. Other eminent speakers, including five from Washington, will bring together, in addition to the delegates to the war conference, more than 1,000 "four minute" men from throughout the state.

## RED CROSS LOCATES MEN.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Through the American Red Cross the navy department has confirmed cable dispatches that two men from the Jacob Jones were taken prisoner by the submarine which sank the destroyer. One of the men, the department announces, is Albert De Mellow, whose relatives were notified yesterday. The name of the second man was so garbled in transmission that it will be necessary to make further inquiry to determine his identity.

Jones' pure apple cider at Hall Liquor company. Just arrived. Six bits a gallon. advN23t

Hot Tom and Jerry at the Bank adv

## WISCONSIN OVER QUOTA.

(By Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Wisconsin has obtained 435,000 Red Cross members, 124,000 more than its quota, according to figures given out at division headquarters. Michigan has obtained 750,000 members and hopes to raise these figures to 1,000,000. Illinois, outside of Chicago, reports 770,000 new members. Nebraska and Iowa are known to have far exceeded their quotas, although no figures are available.

Jones' apple cider just arrived at Hall Liquor company. Six bits a gallon. advN23t

# CLARIFY TERMS, URGE FRENCH

PARISIAN PAPERS COMMENT ON HUN PACE OFFENSIVE; RECOGNIZE DANGER.

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, Dec. 29.—The new Austro-German peace offensive is freely commented upon by the Paris press. All the newspapers realize its gravity and all present a strong front.

"In reality," says L'Homme Libre, "the Germans seek through the Russian delegates to influence the entire by messages of attractive words such as 'democratic peace.' They content themselves with opening pourparlers on particular and profitable points without the faintest intention of honoring their signature when it ceases to be their interest to do so."

"The Germans," says M. Thery, in L'Ouvre, "are conducting a diplomatic action with the same clearness and energy as they have done in a military sense. Meanwhile the entire diplomatic have not yet succeeded clearly in stating their war aims. Will they now realize the necessity of revising and in view of the Russian defection, of rectifying their general program? We have reached the hour when it is not enough to cry to the very end! It is time to know what that end is and to show it."

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The Westminster Gazette, commenting on the address of Count Czernin, refers to the aims of the United States as defined by President Wilson, "and indorsed in a brilliant speech by M. Pichon (the French foreign minister) yesterday."

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# U. S. STATEMENT ON PEACE UNLIKELY

OTHER ALLIES MAY ACCEDE TO PRESSURE FROM POWERFUL FACTIONS.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—America's war aims are regarded by the administration as having been sufficiently disclosed in President Wilson's reply to the pope's last peace proposal and in his recent message to congress. Consequently unless there are further developments in the peace propaganda set afoot by the Germans and Austrians through their negotiations with the Russian Bolsheviks, there is no intention on the part of the United States government to attempt to elaborate or expound the statements of American purposes laid down in those documents.

It is fully understood in Washington that there may be internal reasons in entente countries for making some concessions to certain powerful political elements which are pressing for another statement of the entente's war aims. These considerations will be weighed and acted upon in the discretion of the governments of those countries.

The decision involved is regarded as of great importance because of the possibility that divergent statements might afford the German plotters opportunity to weaken the ties that bind the allies together.

## BALLOON ESCAPES.

(By Associated Press.)

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 29.—Officials of the army balloon school here were making efforts by telegraph and wireless today to locate an army balloon commanded by Captain McCullough and carrying six student aviators, which left here at midnight Thursday night. Another balloon leaving at the same time, commanded by Captain Cole and also carrying six students, landed eighty miles from Fort McIntosh late yesterday afternoon. The missing balloon, officials think, may have been forced to land in Mexico.

Hot Tom and Jerry at the Bank adv

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# NAMES OF ENGINEERS KILLED IN FRANCE

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The names of the American engineers killed and wounded in action on December 23 are reported by General Pershing as follows:

Killed:

Corporal Russell W. Sprague, Mid-dletown, N. Y.

Slightly wounded: Corporal Charles G. Hewett, Rock-land, Me.

Among the deaths from natural causes reported by General Pershing were:

Private Erie O. Sayre, aero squad-ron, Dec. 23, broncho pneumonia; father, David O. Sayre, Waterbury, Neb.

Private James G. Traill, engineers, Dec. 25, pneumonia; father, J. Traill, Bakersfield, Cal.

## LAFOLLETTE KICKED OUT.

MADISON, Wis., Dec. 29.—Robert M. LaFollette, United States senator from Wisconsin, was expelled from membership in the Madison club last night. The grounds given were "unpatriotic conduct and having given aid and comfort to the enemy."

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